

SECRET

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(c) NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

25X1 REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT TO L-1160
10 JULY 1966
PAGE 1

SWATOW-CLASS PGM
HA NOI, NORTH VIETNAM
2103N 10551E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS TWO SWATOW-CLASS MOTOR GUNBOATS NEAR HA NOI.

2. LOCATION:

THE BOATS ARE LOCATED 2.2 NM NORTH OF HA NOI ON THE NORTHEAST BANK OF THE RED RIVER AT UTMS WJ897283 AND WJ900280.

3. COLLATERAL:

EXPLOITATION OF RECONNAISSANCE PHOTOGRAPHY OF MAY 1966 REVEALED TWO DESTROYED NORTH VIETNAMESE PROBABLE SWATOW-CLASS MOTOR GUNBOATS. BOTH WERE BURNED DOWN TO THE WATER LINE, REVEALING THE INTERNAL ENGINEERING COMPONENTS. MOST SIGNIFICANT ON THIS PHOTOGRAPHY WAS THE FACT THAT EACH GUNBOAT HAD ONLY TWO MAIN ENGINES.

PRESENT ENGINEERING ESTIMATES OF THESE CHINESE COMMUNIST-BUILT UNITS INDICATE THAT THEY CARRY FOUR M50-F4 SUPERCHARGED DIESEL ENGINES AS THE MAIN PROPULSION SYSTEM. THIS ESTIMATE IS BASED ON THE SOVIET P-6 CLASS TORPEDO BOAT ENGINEERING PLANT. THE SWATOW-CLASS IS A CHINESE MODIFICATION OF THE P-6 HULL DESIGN WITH TORPEDO TUBES REMOVED AND 37MM GUNS AND NEW SUPERSTRUCTURE ADDED.

THIS WAS THE FIRST PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE THAT THE SWATOW-CLASS

NGA Review Complete

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

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PGM MAY CARRY ONLY TWO MAIN ENGINES. ALTHOUGH THIS PHOTOGRAPHY IS NOT
CONSIDERED CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE THAT ALL SWATOW-CLASS PGMS HAVE ONLY TWO
MAIN ENGINES, AT LEAST SOME OF THE UNITS DELIVERED TO THE NORTH VIETNAMESE
NAVY ARE SO EQUIPPED.

4. MISSION READOUT:

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[REDACTED] REVEALS TWO SWATOW-CLASS PGMS

ANCHORED ON THE NORTHEAST BANK OF THE RED RIVER. THE BOW AND STERN OF
EACH GUNBOAT ARE CANVAS-COVERED. PERSONNEL ARE OBSERVED ON EACH BOAT.

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[REDACTED]
ALL UTM COORDINATES ARE TAKEN FROM AMS SERIES L701, SHEET 6174 II.

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